



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRINGFIELD MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM, METH

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm while also possessing with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Ricky Lee Flowers, 48, of Springfield, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to five years in federal prison without parole.

On March 31, 2004, **Flowers** pleaded guilty to illegally possessing a firearm while also possessing with intent to distribute methamphetamine. **Flowers** possessed the firearm and methamphetamine on July 25, 2002, in Greene County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any person to be in possession of a firearm during or in relation to a drug-trafficking crime.

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney James J. Kelleher. It was investigated by the Springfield, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow